

Specialists Groups

IWA specialist groups, task groups and clusters

Schedule for open meetings

IWA Specialist Groups are central to IWA's work and mission. Group members are engaged in activities such as organising conferences, seminars and workshops; writing books, reports, newsletters and journal papers. Working groups also produce scientific and technical reports, manuals of best practice and position papers.

During the IWA World Water Congress, many specialist Groups (SG), task groups (TG) and clusters have open meetings **to which all congress delegates are welcome**. This provides a unique opportunity to connect and network with specialists and leaders in their respective fields, and to update your knowledge on the issues that interest you.

Monday 10 October

PUBLIC CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M7

How do water services effect society? How to raise awareness? Why public participation? The specialist group on Public & Customer Communications is all about sharing and developing best practices. At our meeting on Monday during lunch we will look back on the work the Specialist has done the last two years and discuss the priorities for the coming year.

ALTERNATIVE WATER RESOURCES CLUSTER 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M7

This meeting will focus on the review of the current Cluster's progress, but also on the planning of future steps towards the final aim of proposing New Water Solutions. Besides, we will review the main conclusions obtained at the Workshop in order to identify new opportunities and possible areas of interest.

WATERSHED AND RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M8

The SG promotes the understanding, benefits and utilisation of integrated catchment management approaches for the beneficial and sustainable use of rivers, lakes and groundwater basins worldwide. This informal session will explore opportunities for networking and sharing knowledge including programmes exploring different water resource options for a growing global population within the constraints of climate change.

BEST PRACTICES FOR CONTROL OF ARSENIC IN DRINKING WATER 15:30 - 17:00 / Board Room 2

Arsenic in drinking water has been recognized as a major public health concern, affecting more than 200 million people around the world. The best practices to control arsenic from source to tap will be outlined and elaborated in the open meeting of IWA Specialist Group on Metals and Related Substances in Drinking Water.

Tuesday 11 October

WATER SECURITY AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT 10:30 - 12:00 / Room M5+M6

This meeting aims at giving the attendees some examples of what is being done through illustrations on recent crisis management case studies lived at water utilities; as well as latest report on researches focusing on technology solutions for early warning systems. Presentations will open for discussion with the audience.

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE WATER SECTOR 10:30 - 12:00 / Room M7

The SG performs the role of making sure that economic, social, and environmental aspects are addressed in every aspect of water use. Working groups of the Specialist Group are applying sustainability principles to workforce sustainability; the inter-relationships between water quality and the environment; energy and water in the urban environment; and industrial use of water. Please attend our open meeting; we would welcome your participation.

INTERMITTENT WATER SUPPLY TG 10:30 - 12:00 / Room M8

The open meeting will provide an opportunity to inform participants of the purpose, objectives and deliverables of the Group and to exchange ideas and thoughts on the way forward in assisting water utilities and governments in improving the level of service to the consumers and water supply conditions in general reflecting on technical, financial, institutional, social and communication issues.

PRETREATMENT OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER 10:30 - 12:00 / Board Room 1

This SG meeting will provide a place for older and new members to discuss the future and evolution of our strategic objectives; debate areas presented by the Committee in the report on SG trends; discuss our conference for 2018; and find new regional Committee members to enhance our annual activities.

INDUSTRIAL WATERS AND WASTEWATERS 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M5+M6

This meeting aims to brainstorm with Congress participants on how IWA can better work on industrial waters: which pressing problems and challenges from industries IWA can tackle, who to involve (both within and beyond IWA's network), how to work on it, etc.

DESIGN, OPERATION AND COSTS OF LARGE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M7

The meeting will highlight the last specialist conference of the group and will give an outlook to the next conference. As a new format it has been decided that in between the regular conferences of the group (every four years) an additional event will be organized, preferably in Asia or in the Americas. It is now planned to have a conference in China in November 2018 together with the SG on Nutrient Removal and Recovery. New information concerning this event will be given.

Tuesday 11 October

INSTRUMENTATION, CONTROL AND AUTOMATION 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M8

This meeting will provide you with the latest updates on our upcoming conferences (IT&Water 2016, ICA2017), management committee elections and other activities. We look forward to interacting with you on how to make ICA SG a true forum for all members.

BENCHMARKING AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 12:00 - 13:30 / Board Room 1

The Benchmarking Specialist Group welcomes any IWA World Water Congress attendant to join us for the SG meeting. During the meeting, topics to be discussed will include the upcoming SG conference in Vienna, Austria, the publication of the new IWA Performance Indicators Manual and the options to actively participate in our group.

SLUDGE MANAGEMENT 13:30 - 15:00 / Room M8

During our group open meeting, the Specialist Group on Sludge Management (SGSM) will discuss our future conferences and workshops, and also new projects that are in the planning phase.

WATER REUSE 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M5+M6

Topics to be discussed include organizational issues and planning of special sessions for the 2017 11th IWA Water Reclamation and Reuse Conference in Long Beach, update from members of the editorial board of our newsletter, and topics brought forward by members of the WRSBG.

MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M7

This meeting will be the opportunity to meet fellow Membrane Professionals and to hear about the latest activities of the IWA's Membrane Specialist Group, including the next IWA Membrane Technology Conference (Singapore, September 2017), and next Regional conference in 2018, the upcoming renewal of the Committee next year, and the selection of membrane representatives in the Young Water Professional Group.

DESIGN, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF DRINKING WATER TREATMENT PLANTS 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M8

The open group meeting will start with an introduction of the scope of the SG activities, priorities, general trends and key challenges. In a second part we will focus the discussion on a specific issue such as plant operation data management and share experience on what data is needed and gathered, for which purpose, how it is used and what tools can be recommended.

Wednesday 12 October

WATER LOSS 10:30 - 12:00 / Room M7

This is an open meeting, and is about the groups activities on water loss, in particular Non Revenue Water. Techniques focussed on are leak detection, pressure control, apparent losses, flow measurement, water distribution management, water audits, strategic planning for water loss reduction, and many other factors impacting on losses.

MODELLING AND INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M5+M6

The MIA SG will present the new Management Committee and its associated YWPs and how the MC intends to work to move the MIA group forward and further strengthening its role during the upcoming years. Ongoing activities relating to MIA Task Groups and Working Groups, upcoming group events and conferences will be revealed. The group's new communication policy will also be discussed. As always, it will be possible for SG members to bring up their own topics and ideas for discussion during the open meeting. Welcome!

HOT TOPICS IN RESOURCE RECOVERY FROM WATER 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M7

The cluster open meeting aims to summarize the overall goal, strategic objective and expected outcomes of the 'resource recovery from water' cluster. Second, the activities conducted and progress made in the last year will also be reviewed. Finally, activities and objectives outlined for the coming 2 years will be discussed.

EFFICIENT URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M8

The Efficient Urban Water Management Specialist Group promotes knowledge, research, best practices and programs regarding efficient management and use of water in urban zones. We focus on topics like end use efficiency, customer demand management, water losses management, performance assessment, water resource planning, and technological innovation. All stakeholders are welcome.

DIFFUSE POLLUTION AND EUTROPHICATION 12:00 - 13:30 / Board Room 1

The objective of the SG is to understand and solve contamination and eutrophication of natural water resources by diffuse or non-point sources. By organizing biennial worldwide and regional conferences ("DIPCON"), the Group exchanges knowledge about the state-of-art research, monitoring/modelling/management approaches, innovative solutions and policy development. Please join us at this meeting. We would welcome your participation!

SMALL WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M5+M6

This meeting will update you about the last SG conference in Athens, Greece and the election of new Management Committee. Challenges and future activities of the SWWS SG will be discussed, and more detailed information about the proposals and announcements of the next specialized Conference will also be introduced.

STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT 15:30 - 17:00 / Room M7

The SAM SG is pleased to invite you to our open meeting where we will engage you in the groups' latest developments and future events, namely a joint-conference on infrastructure asset management and utility bankability in Chile, the next LESAM in Norway, and many more.

Thursday 13 October

ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES IN WATER 12:00 - 13:30 / Room M7

This specialist group focuses on analytical methods, bioassays, occurrence, fate and effects of substances in in water and the environment, risk assessment, management and communication and regulatory aspects to improve water quality for a safe environment. This meeting will share and update the audience about the future events on micropollutants and hot topics for micropollutants.